

re:publica, Europe's Largest Digital Society Conference, Arrives In Detroit To Discuss Access in the Digital Age

Berlin-based conference on US tour heads to Detroit to explore barriers and opportunities around access to arts, culture, mobility, urban space and economy

August 29, 2019 - Berlin - re:publica — Europe's largest internet and digital society conference — is coming to Detroit as part of its Sequencer Tour. Taking place on September 27 and 28 at Tangent Gallery (715 E Milwaukee Ave), the conference will discuss the topic of access as it relates to three tracks: arts and culture, mobility and urban space and work and new economy. As one of the lighthouse projects of the German government's year-long celebration of German-American friendship, re:publica on Sequencer Tour aims to draw transatlantic ties and explore the ways digitization is changing societies. All events are free and open to the public. Registration can be completed at eventbrite.

"With re:publica Detroit, we want to reach out to the local communities and offer a platform for exchange on issues of the digital society", states re:publica co-founder and CEO Andreas Gebhard. "Active community participation always makes re:publica a unique event and with our <u>Call for Participation</u> we invited all voices to be heard. We are looking forward to an intense debate on questions around access and an exchange of creative ideas for social change. re:publica Detroit wants to connect local Detroiters and global communities from different corners of the society. In particular, we hope to further strengthen the connection between Detroit and Berlin."

The program has been co-curated by local leaders and professionals. Each track will begin with a wide perspective through keynotes and panels, followed by workshops, ideation labs and participatory formats that encourage active engagement. Screenings, performances, a closing party and more will further enhance the festival experience.

Keynote speakers include Cézanne Charles (partner of rootoftwo), Bryce Detroit (record executive and producer), Lauren Hood (social change agent), Markus Beckedahl (re:publica co-founder and digital rights activist) as well as Saskia Sassen (Professor of Sociology at Columbia University). Furthermore, re:publica Detroit will feature 30 plus speakers, among them Adrian Tonon, Alex Haagaard, Alisa Moldavanova, Andreas Görgen, Aya Krisht, Brandon Colvin, Chanell Scott Contreras, Chase Cantrell, Claudia Owusu, Devita Davison, Diana Nucera, Jade MetzgerJoanna Dueweke-Perez, John Collins, Kuukua Eshun, Leila Abdelrazaq, Liz Jackson, Mark de la Vergne, Rochelle Riley, Stine Eckert, Tiffany Brown, Walter Wasacz.

On Saturday evening, September 28, re:publica Detroit will celebrate its closing night with a party curated by Dimitri Hegemann at Electric Studios. The lineup includes John Collins (Underground Resistance), Deepchord and Tom Linder (Detroit Techno Militia).

RE:PUBLICA DETROIT CO-CURATORS

Arts & Culture

<u>Tiffy Massey</u>, an interdisciplinary artist from Detroit, Michigan.

<u>Lauren Rossi</u>, a Detroit-based cultural producer and consultant for artists and artist-led organizations. <u>Dimitri Hegemann</u>, founder and owner of the legendary club Tresor in Berlin, co-founder of the "Detroit-Berlin Connection", as well as a spatial developer, arts manager and director of KRAFTWERK BERLIN, a venue for culture and discourse.

Mobility & Urban Space

<u>Jessica Robinson</u>, executive director of the Michigan Mobility Institute where she works to accelerate the development of talent for the growing mobility industry.

Karen Prater Jasmine, executive director of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA).

Work & New Economy

<u>Maria LaLonde</u>, senior program officer for the New Economy Initiative (NEI), one of the nation's largest philanthropic partnerships, working to build an inclusive network of support for entrepreneurs in Southeast Michigan.

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re:publica

re:publica is Europe's largest digital society conference. Professionals from economics, politics, business, hacker culture, NGOs, media and marketing as well as bloggers, activists, artists and social media experts come together to discuss current issues of digital society. re:publica Berlin 2019 counted more than 25.000 visits during the three conference days. In addition, re:publica celebrated its Africa debut in Ghana's capital Accra from December 14 - 15, 2019 and is organizing five events in the United States as a strategic partner of the Year of German-American friendship. re:publica Berlin 2020 will take place from May 6 - 8, 2020 for the 14th time at STATION Berlin. re:publica GmbH's shareholders, new thinking communications and Spreeblick Verlag, have been committed to issues of net politics, as well as digital culture and society, for over a decade. www.re-publica.com/en

re:publica on Sequencer Tour

As one of the lighthouse projects of the Year of German-American friendship, re:publica has been on Sequencer Tour with Reeperbahn Festival and next media accelerator since October 2018 and has already taken place in Los Angeles, Austin and New York. After one year of #wunderbartogether re:publica is coming to Detroit on September 28 - 29, 2019. The last stop of the Sequencer Tour will take place in Portland (Oregon) from October 9 - 12, 2019, as part of the WunderbarTogether PopUp Tour. Sequencer Tour and the Year of German-American friendship is funded by the Federal Foreign Office, realized by the Goethe-Institut and supported by the Federation of German Industries (BDI).

www.sequencer-tour.com/en

Wunderbar Together

From October 2018 until the end of 2019, Germany and its deep ties to the US will be on display all across the United States. The campaign *Deutschlandjahr USA* will travel across the entire US, bringing with it a collection of events and exhibits revolving around business and industry, politics, education, culture and science to highlight the unique importance of transatlantic relations and to strengthen bridges between our societies. *Deutschlandjahr USA* is a comprehensive and collaborative campaign of the Federal Foreign Office, the Goethe-Institute and with support of the BDI, with the goal of presenting today's Germany to people across the entire US.

www.wunderbartogerher.org

PARTNERS

Institute for Sound and Music Berlin, Little Cinema, New Economy Initiative (NEI)

MEDIA AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

re:publica Detroit works closely together with media and community partners from Detroit, among them: CANVASXDETROIT, Contemporary And (C&), Detroit Community Technology Project, Detroit-Berlin Connection, Detroit Month of Design 2019, Detroit Mobility Lab, FILTER Detroit, National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), Salt & Cedar, YOUR MOM

Press contact re:publica

Irmela Wrogemann | Communications re:publica Detroit | irmela.wrogemann@re-publica.com | +49 151 207 65 924

Facebook: http://facebook.com/sequencertour
Instagram: http://instagram.com/sequencertour
Flickr: http://flickr.com/photos/re-publica/
LinkedIn: http://linkedin.com/groups/4092114
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